

## A QUEER OLD GUN.

The Way the Ancient Matchlock Was Loaded and Fired.

Among the arms now obsolete which formed a large part of the infantry equipment in the days when the army was started was the pike, which was in the form of a spear, with a flat and pointed head, mounted on a staff from thirteen to eighteen feet long. The fire-arm in general use at the time was the matchlock.

What would a sergeant major of the present day, with his men armed with the magazine rifle, think of such a weapon as this: "Attached to the lock of this musket was a pan; also a cock, the hammer of which was somewhat in the form of a bird's, serpent's or dog's head. This head was split, and a screw compressed on each side the slits. The piece being loaded first with powder and then with ball, some powder was poured into the pan. The pan was then shut to keep this 'priming' from dropping out and to keep it dry. When the soldier wished to fire, he fastened his burning match into the slit of the cock, opened the pan, looked to his priming, presented and pulled the trigger. The match, falling into the powder in the pan, fired it.

"Between the pan and breech of the barrel communication was established by means of a small hole. When the piece was being loaded the grains of powder were naturally rammed and shaken down close to this hole, and when priming the soldier took care to perfect the communication of the powder in the pan with that in the barrel. Thus the explosion in the pan caused the ignition of the charge."—London Graphic.

## OLD TIME STYLES.

The Fashions in Ladies' Hats in Richmond After the War.

A southern lady in a diary which she kept throughout the civil war tells of a bonnet which she made and which was regarded as "quite stunning." The author of "Dixie After the War" quotes from the diary as follows:

"We had been wearing coal scuttle bonnets of plaited straw, trimmed with corn shuck rosettes. I made fifteen one spring, acquired a fine name as a milliner and was paid for my work.

I recall one that was quite stunning. I got hold of a bit of much worn white ribbon and dyed it an exquisite shade of green with a tea made of coffee berries. Coffee berries dye a lovely green. You might remember that if you are ever in war and blockaded.

When the northern ladies appeared on the streets of Richmond they did not seem to have on any bonnets at all. They wore tiny, three cornered affairs, tied on with narrow strings, and all their hair showing in the back. We thought them the most absurd and trifling things. But we made haste to get some.

The Yankees introduced some new fashions in other things besides clothes that I remember vividly, one being canned fruit. I had never seen any canned fruit before the Yankees came. Pleasant innovations in food were like to leave lasting impressions on one who had been living on next to nothing for an indefinite period.

At the Matrimonial Agency.

"Madam, I have picked out a charming husband for you. Only I warn you he is a thorough sportsman; fond of automobiling, mountain climbing, bicycling and ballooning."

## LEGAL NOON.

A Time That Seems to Vary in the Different States.

The courts of several states have dealt with an odd question, none of them agreeing upon a similar answer. When is it legally noon? Fire insurance policies expire at noon, and the word is admitted to mean exactly 12 o'clock midday. But standard time has not been adopted in all communities. Many small towns cling to sun time, which may be from a few minutes to nearly an hour earlier than standard. In one state a fire occurred at two minutes past noon, sun time, and the insurance company held that the policy had expired before the fire. Sun time is used in that town, but the insured sued the company, holding that local customs did not rule the policy and that he was entitled to his insurance. The state courts sustained him. In another state a similar contention was taken to the courts and just the opposite decision given. Several conflicting precedents have been established in state courts, and it is said the question can only be decided for good and all when a case has been carried into the United States courts and passed upon by the supreme court. —New York Press.

## Influenza.

Influenza derives its name from an Italian word meaning influence. It was thus entitled by the Italians in the seventeenth century because they attributed the disease to the influence of the stars. A very common belief is that influenza is a comparatively modern disease, disassociated from a general class by latter day medical men, but this is far from being the case, for the illness has been mentioned by ancient writers as far back as the fourteenth century, there being records of its appearance in France in 1311 and 1403.

## Absentminded.

Benson—I have a literary friend who is so absentminded that when he went to London recently he telegraphed himself ahead to wait for himself at a certain place. Smith—Did the telegram have the desired result? Benson—No; he got it all right, but he had forgotten to sign his name, and, not knowing who it was from, he paid no attention to it.—Pearson's Weekly.

## Monaco's Easter Mystery Play.

Monaco recently had its mystery play of the passion, of which one feature was the coronation of Pontius Pilate's army, who was clad in a Roman cuirass, the epaulettes of a general, a long rapier, white silk stockings, a gigantic helmet with a towering plume of feathers. Judas' part consisted in throwing himself continually into his master's arms and kissing him in a touching manner. Adam and Eve were personated by a young boy and girl in costumes of Louis Quinze, with powdered wigs, and eating apples off the boughs of an orange tree.

## Love Tokens.

The arranging and decorating of pasche, or love eggs, and the sending of them as offerings to lovers on Easter Monday were time honored customs, and one of our writers of some years ago assures us that some such gift made by the hands of the sender was more sure to bring happy results than could possibly be obtained on St. Valentine's day by the sending of the handsomest valentine we could buy.

## WALT WHITMAN.

Ways of the Poet Who Was Loved by All Who Knew Him.

This is the Walt Whitman who was known and loved by those who met him daily:

"After some conversation Whitman proposed a walk across to Philadelphia. Putting on his gray slouch hat, he sallied forth with evident leisure and, taking my arm as a support, walked slowly the best part of a mile to the ferry. Crossing the ferry was always a great pleasure to him. The life of the street and of the people was so near, so dear. The men on the ferry steamer were evidently old friends, and when we landed on the Philadelphia side we were before long quite besieged—the man or woman selling fish at the corner of the street, the tramway conductor, the loafers on the pavement—a word of recognition from Walt or an offer from the other first; presently a cheery shout from the top of a dray, and before we had gone many yards farther the driver was down and standing in front of us, his horses given to the care of some bystander. He was an old Broadway 'stager,' had not seen Walt for three or four years, and tears were in his eyes as he held his hand. We were now brought to a standstill, and others gathered round. George was ill, and Walt must go and see him. There was a message for the children, and in his pocket the poet discovered one or two packets for absent little ones. But for the most part his words were few. It was the others who spoke and apparently without reserve." —Whitman as Carpenter Saw P' in Craftsman.

## REAL RHEUMATISM.

The Causes and Symptoms of Uric Acid in the Blood.

Rheumatism, so called, is probably as common as any ailment one ever hears of, and yet if one were to analyze carefully the average case of rheumatism the result would doubtless show that the disease was something very different indeed from the real thing. Almost everybody when suffering from a slight stiffness of a joint or a muscular soreness promptly makes a diagnosis of rheumatism when in reality the case is nothing more than what in technical language is known as lithemia, sometimes called American gout.

The real disease of rheumatism is the result of an accumulation in the blood of imperfectly converted food, principally uric acid. This accumulation is due to intemperance in eating and drinking and insufficient active exercise.

Hereditarily in some cases seems to play an important part. In the great majority the symptoms follow a regular order, beginning with a feeling of fullness and discomfort after meals, indigestion, nausea and an unpleasant taste in the mouth, followed by throbbing headache, nervous irritability and vertigo, muscular pains which may be confined to one or more muscles or skip about them one to another. Lastly, and in most cases the most troublesome of all symptoms, is depression of spirits, the patient imagining that he has all sorts of ailments. Persons suffering from mental disorder as a result of this disease have been known to commit suicide. Fortunately these cases are not common, but it should be remembered that they are among the possibilities. —A Doctor in New York World.

## A RARE BIRD.

Why an American Showman Could Not Get It For His Museum.

When the eminent French writer Ferdinand Brunetiere visited the United States some years ago, lecturing at Harvard and other leading universities, he had an amusing experience, which he described in the recollections of his American tour which he afterward published. The great litterateur devoted much attention to the life and works of Boissuet, who was often styled the "Eagle of Meaux," on account perhaps of his lofty flights of eloquence. This fact, with others pertaining to his literary career, was mentioned by some daily papers during his stay in this country. It caught the eyes of a shrewd American showman, who, however, got somewhat mixed over the meaning of the allusion. He wrote the following letter to the French author:

Sir—I have just heard that a certain Meaux eagle, very celebrated, it appears, in your country, has become your exclusive property. Now, I am the manager of a museum in one of the largest cities in the States. This Meaux eagle, whose reputation has been enhanced by your eloquence, would certainly not fail to excite the curiosity of my public. If you will let me have the rare bird and tell me how to feed it, you can quote your own figure.

Brunetiere politely explained that the "rare bird" had been dead for nearly 200 years.

## CORDON BLEU.

Origin of the French Title as Applied to a Fine Cook.

The Order of the St. Esprit was created in 1567, was suppressed by the revolution and was revived by Louis XVIII. in 1814. To speak rightly, Louis XVIII. considered that the order had never ceased to exist, for he had given two collars during his exile, in 1810, the one to Francis I., king of the two Sicilies, and the other to his brother, the Prince of Salerno, the father of his brother's wife, the Duchess d'Anguine.

The ribbon of this order was a light blue color. It was worn around the neck in the reigns of Henry III. and Henry IV., but was changed by Louis XIV., when it was worn across the chest. The Chevaliers of the St. Esprit were always known under the name of Les Cordon Bleu, and this was the supreme honor during the monarchy of France. It was from this that the title of "cordon bleu" was given to a first class cook. A gentleman one day declared after a good meal that he who had cooked the dinner had proved himself a "cordon bleu" among cooks—in other words, the master of his art. The title became quite the rage and is now always used to designate a good cook without the persons who use it knowing what it means or still less the origin of the title.

## FOREIGN HOTELS.

They Differ in Many Ways From Those of Our Own Country.

Hot water is not "laid on" (piped) at foreign hotels, says the Travel Magazine. If you hear a gentle tap on the door in the morning, you may interpret it as meaning that a copper ewer of hot water has just been set down outside for your personal use.

If you order a bath, it will be prepared for you accordingly, and a sweet voiced maid will give you notice when it is ready. You are not expected to operate the water valves at all, and it is doubtful if you would succeed if you tried.

From a variety of vacant rooms at a hotel shown you select the one you prefer, with a definite agreement as to price. You are not required to accept humbly and thankfully, in blind faith, whatever room the clerk deigns to assign to you, as in America. It is expected, however, that you will order your breakfasts at the hotel, being free to get your other meals elsewhere if you prefer.

Electric light switches are not commonly turned on by a push button or a flat key, as in our buildings, but by a small brass lever. Many of the best hotels have a reading light in the headboard of each bedstead.

## The Last Resort.

A man went into an oculist's the other day and, complaining of falling sight, got fitted with a pair of spectacles.

"Is this the weakest glass for my eye?" he asked.

"Yes," replied the oculist.

"Supposing I can't see with it after a few months?"

"Get a stronger then."

"And if I still can't see?"

"Get a still stronger."

"And if the strongest glass fails?"

"In that case I think if I were you I should buy a small, intelligent dog and a couple of yards of string."

## It Made a Difference.

"Good gracious!" exclaimed the visitor. "Hear those boys fighting and yelling out there. Regular little hoodlums, aren't they?"

"I can't say," replied Mrs. Famley. "I'm rather nearsighted, you know."

"But surely you can hear them."

"Oh, yes; but I can't tell whether they're my children or the neighbors'."

—Exchange.

## Doing Up a Shirt.

"This bill is too high," said the customer. "Too high?" ejaculated the laundryman. "That's what I said—too high." "But, man, do you know how long it takes to do up a shirt?" "Why, about four washings!"—Yonkers Statesman.

## The Bore.

"I think Jones is one of the worst bores that ever lived." "Why so?" "He broke right in and began talking about himself while I was telling about a thrilling experience I once had out west."—Indianapolis Star.

little housemaid says now is the time for that carpet



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then, how about the celebrated eddy refrigerator? we are selling one like

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**Beautiful Hair At Small Cost,**

WITHIN the last decade great and rapid strides have been made in Materia Medica. Many diseases that were considered incurable fifteen years ago are now cured in a few days, and in many cases prevented altogether. The scientists of late years have been delving for the cause, the foundation, the reason and the starting point of disease, fully realizing that the actual and true cause must be ascertained before the remedy can be located. Hair troubles, like many other diseases, have been wrongly diagnosed and altogether misunderstood. The hair itself is not the thing to be treated, for the reason that it is simply a product of the scalp, and wholly dependent upon its action. The scalp is the very soil in which the hair is produced, nurtured and grown, and it alone should receive the attention if results are to be expected. It would do no earthly good to treat the stem of a plant with a view of making it grow and become more beautiful—the soil in which the plant grows must be attended to. Therefore, the scalp in which the hair grows must receive the attention if you are to expect it to grow and become more beautiful.

Loss of hair is caused by the scalp drying up, or losing its supply of moisture or nutriment, and when baldness occurs the scalp has simply lost all of its nourishment, leaving nothing for the hair to feed upon (a plant or even a tree would die under similar conditions).

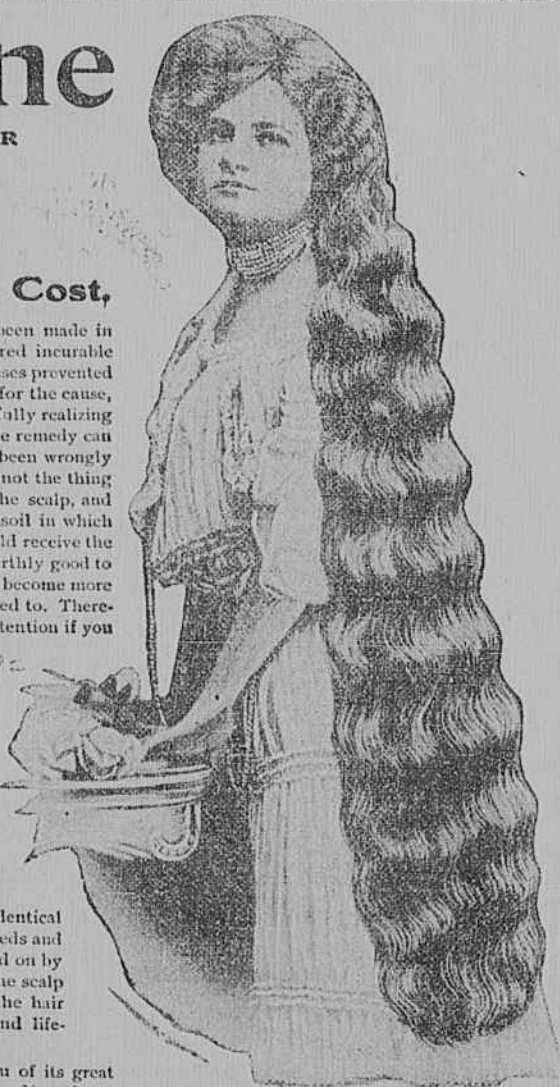
The natural and logical thing to do in either case is, feed and replenish the soil or scalp as the case may be, and your crop will grow and multiply as nature intended it should.

**Dr. Knowlton's DANDERINE**

is the only remedy for the hair ever discovered that is identical with the natural hair foods or liquids of the scalp. It feeds and nourishes the hair and does all the work originally carried on by the natural nutrients or life-giving juices generated by the scalp itself. It penetrates the pores of the scalp quickly and the hair soon shows the effects of its wonderfully exhilarating and life-producing qualities.

One twenty-five-cent bottle is enough to convince you of its great worth as a hair growing and hair beautifying remedy—try it and see for yourself. Now on sale at every drug and toilet store in the land. Three sizes, 25c, 50c and \$1.00.

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